



Hill Avenue Academy

Empower and Entrust

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Head of School: Miss H Kahlon



02.03.21

Dear parents and carers

RE: March return to school

I am writing to outline our plans to re-open the school to all pupils on Monday 8th March in accordance with Government guidance. As our full re-opening was a success in September, we will continue with the procedures we introduced then. This includes the staggered start and finish times as well as continuing to ensure strict hygiene routines are maintained and minimising contact between the bubbles and staff. Our risk assessment has been devised in conjunction with our Health and Safety advisors. The plan continues to be underpinned by the need to prioritise the safety of all whilst also bearing in mind that school should be operating as close to normal practice as possible.

The safety of our children and staff continues to remain a priority for our school and thus we will continue to implement the comprehensive safety measures that were in place last term. These are all carefully detailed in our most recent risk assessment, which is available on our school website.

These include:

- staggered start and finish times
- staggered break times and lunchtimes in class bubbles
- a one-way system around the school site to promote social distancing
- front and back gate entrances/exits in order to manage the social distancing for families on arrival and departure from school
- a request that only one adult enters the school grounds during their child's allocated drop off and collection time, and that parents promptly collect their child and leave the site
- No dogs/pets allowed on or around the school site
- Use the designated markers around the site for guidance
- Parents/carers must not enter the building
- After-School clubs will remain closed until further notice
- children to be taught in class bubbles during the school day
- children will be provided with their own set of classroom stationery
- Bags and personal belongings (other than a water bottle and a packed lunch in a disposable bag) must not be brought into school
- School meals can also be ordered on Parentmail
- a continued focus on good hygiene practices, with additional hand-washing and cleaning, as well as reminders about respiratory hygiene (blow your nose with a tissue, 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it')
- **a polite request that all adults on site must wear a face mask or protective alternative to minimise the risk of transferring the infection.**

New staggered start and finish times (all year groups)

| Groups | Start Time | End Time |
|-------------------------------|------------|----------|
| Morning Nursery | 8:45am | 11:45am |
| Afternoon Nursery | 12:20pm | 3:15pm |
| Siblings/Childminder families | 8:45am | 3:00pm |
| Non-sibling families | 9:00am | 3:15pm |

Staggered Morning Break-Times

- Early Years Foundation Stage Bubble (Reception & Nursery)
- Key Stage 1 Bubble (Years 1 & 2)
- Lower Key Stage 2 Bubble (Years 3 & 4)
- Upper Key Stage 2 Bubble (Years 5 & 6)

Staggered Lunchtimes (specific equipment for each bubble/cleaned after use)

- Early Years Foundation Stage Bubble (Reception) 11:20 am – 12:05pm
- Key Stage 1 Bubble (Years 1 & 2) 11:45 am - 12:30pm
- Lower Key Stage 2 Bubble (Years 3 & 4) 12:10pm – 12:55pm
- Upper Key Stage 2 Bubble (Years 5 & 6) 12:45pm – 1:30pm

We will continue to utilise the outside space as much as possible and the zones that were put in place for the September re-opening will continue to be used to facilitate class bubble play areas and prevent the mixing of different year groups. Lunchtimes and break-times will continue to be staggered to ensure children have enough space to play.

PE Kits

We ask that the children continue to wear their PE kits to school on the day their class has PE. On all other days, the children will be expected to wear full uniform.

Attendance

As at the start of this academic year, attendance is mandatory and all pupils are expected to attend every day. The usual school rules on attendance apply to all children.

As a reminder, your child should self-isolate and not come to school if they:

- Have coronavirus symptoms or have tested positive
- Live with someone who has symptoms or have tested positive
- Are a close contact of someone who has tested positive

In the Event of a Confirmed Case in School

As per our risk assessment, if someone tests positive for Covid-19, the individual and their family will have to self-isolate as will all identified close contacts for 10 days. For children who are isolating due to a confirmed case of Covid, work will be set via Microsoft Teams.

Staff Testing

All school staff are undertaking Lateral Flow testing twice a week.

Cleaning & Hygiene

We will continue with the increased cleaning throughout the school day and after school.

- All toilets deep cleaned: 1:30pm – 2:30pm
- Entire school cleaned 3:15pm – 6:15pm
- All classrooms and equipment cleaned, sanitised and organised after each lesson throughout the day
- All sports equipment cleaned after use by staff
- Each class bubble will have their own resources and equipment to avoid cross-contamination

The children will wash their hands regularly with soap and water as well as the use of hand sanitiser throughout the day. We will continue with daily reminders about hand hygiene, sneezing into tissues for “*Catch it, Kill it, Bin it*” or into their elbow, keeping within their class bubbles and to social distance where possible. Water fountains will remain out of use.

The Curriculum

As ever, our curriculum will be broad and ambitious, ensuring our pupils continue to receive a high-quality education that promotes their development. Once again, this will be informed by initial assessments of each pupil’s starting point, enabling staff to identify our children’s in skills and knowledge, and continue to consolidate and master the good progress that our pupils have already made. We will also focus upon the PSHE curriculum, supporting our pupils to build friendships and relationships with others, and to support their wellbeing, discussing anxieties and worries they may have. Forest School will also be an integral part of our school curriculum, with all children having access to our outdoor learning. Please ensure your child comes prepared on their given day!

Visitors in School

We still ask all parents to contact the school via telephone or email to avoid face-to-face contact unless strictly necessary. Meetings with parents will be by appointment only and all visitors – parents and visiting professionals - will be required to have their temperature checked and to wear a face covering whilst in school, unless 2 metre distancing can be maintained. Unfortunately, we are still unable to accommodate any volunteers working within the school at this current time.

We would like to thank you for your continuing support. If you or your child have any concerns about returning to school, or if you think that your child might need extra support when they return, please get in touch with the school office.

We would also like to thank you for all your support in helping your child learn from home. We will continue to keep in touch if we update our plans or if we need to make changes due to new government guidance.

Warmest wishes

Mr E Hateley
Executive Headteacher



Mask or
face covering
must be worn